

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Satoshi ASARI et al. **CONF. NO.: 5621**  
Serial No. : 10/593,973  
Filed : September 22, 2006  
Art Unit : 3652  
Examiner : John-Paul N. Mitchell  
For : VERTICAL HEAT TREATMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD OF  
TRANSFERRING PROCESS OBJECTS

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 4, 2008, to which a response was due December 4, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below and consider the following arguments. Accompanying the response is a Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time and the requisite fee.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4.

Remarks begin on page 8.